

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /085 W
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R 272203 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7776

INFO CINCSO FOR POLAD

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 1357

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, DR

SUBJECT: GODR CONTINUES SEARCH FOR REMAINING GUERRILLA

REF: SD 1341

1. IN ANOTHER BRIEF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MARCH 26, THE ARMED FORCES SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCED THE CAPTURE AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00 PM, MARCH 25, OF HAMLET HERMANN PEREZ BY GUARDS OF THE STATE- OWNED CATAREY SUGAR MILL NEAR ALTAGRACIA. THE COMMUNIQUE ADDED THAT HERMANN WAS ONE OF TWO GUERRILLAS WHO HAD SURVIVED VARIOUS FIREFIGHTS WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES. HOWEVER, NO MENTION WAS MADE OF CARLOS TORIBIO PENA JAQUEZ WHO WAS LAST SEEN IN SANTO DOMINGO. AT THE TIME OF HIS CAPTURE, HERMANN ASKED THAT HIS LIFE BE GUARANTEED. ACCORDING TO THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE, HERMANN WAS CARRYING ONLY A MACHETE WHEN APPREHENDED, HAVING ABANDONED HIS RIFLE IN FLIGHT (LATER RECOVERED BY THE MILITARY).

2. SUBSEQUENT TO THE ABOVE ANNOUNCEMENT, REPORTERS FROM SEVERAL SANTO DOMINGO NEWSPAPERS WERE ALLOWED TO PHOTOGRAPH AND ASK A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS OF THE GAUNT AND APPARENTLY EXHAUSTED HERMANN AT THE LOS MOGOTES FIELD COMMAND POST. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, HERMANN INDICATED THAT HE WAS BEING WELL- TREATED BY HIS CAPTORS. HE REPORTEDLY CONFIRMED THAT EX- COL FRANCISCO CAAMANO DENO LED THE GUERRILLA GROUP WHICH LANDED AT PLAYA
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CARACOLES ON FEBRUARY 3. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ONE OF THE GUERRILLAS, WHOM HE ONLY KNEW BY THE PSEUDONYM " BRAULIO," HAD DIED OF HUNGER AND EXPOSURE AND WAS BURIED BY HIS COLLEAGES IN THE MOUNTAINS.

3. ACCORDING TO THE MARCH 26 ISSUE OF ULTIMA HORA, HERMANN ALLEGEDLY IDENTIFIED THE REMAINING GUERRILLA BY HIS CODE NAME " ARSENIO," INDICATED THAT HE WAS A COUSIN OF FRANCISCO CAAMANO. THE PRESS HAS SUBSEQUENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS COUSIN AS CLAUDIO CAAMANO GRULLON.

4. ALTHOUGH A REDUCED NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT FORCES CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR " ARSENIO" IN THE LOS MOGOTES AREA, ARMED FORCES SECRETARY JIMENEZ WAS QUOTED IN THIS AFTERNOON' S (MARCH 27) EL NACIONAL AS SAYING THAT " ONE MAN ALONE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A GUERRILLA WAR ." THIS ALLEGED STATEMENT WAS GIVEN FRONT PAGE COVERAGE IN EL NACIONAL WHICH HEADLINED THE STORY " ARMED FORCES DECLARE GUERRILLA WAR OVER."

5. COMMENT: HERMANN' S MOTHER (A SISTER OF DRA. ALTAGRACIA PEREZ PENA, UNDER SECRETARY OF EDUCATION) AND HIS WIFE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN ASSURED BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER AND ARMED FORCES SECRETARY JIMENEZ RESPECTIVELY THAT HERMANN' S LIFE WOULD BE GUARANTEED BY THE GODR. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW THE GODR WILL HANDLE ITS NEW PRISONER.

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